Local sport hit by snow

THE first snow of the winter took its toll of local sport over the weekend. Wycombe Wanderers were forced to call off their game at home to Leytonstone in the Rothmans Isthmian League on Saturday.

With the pitch still covered in snow, the club called in local referee Bill Cleere and after consulting with the scheduled referee, Mr A. Ward, he decided conditions were unplayable due to the amount of snow on the pitch. Bill tried rolling a ball on the surface but the snow stuck to it, making play impossible. The match was called off at noon.

Worst hit by the snow was the Saturday football programme. Marlow at home to Cheshunt in the Athenian League and Burnham's attractive Rothmans Hellenic League match at home to Hungerford had to be called off because of the snow covered pitches.

Chalfont St Peter and Olney, who were already a round behind the rest in the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup fell even further adrift when the first round second replay between the two sides was another casualty. Amersham, in the London Spartan League, were also out of action and the only local senior club to play were Flackwell Heath who beat Wantage 2-0 in their Hellenic League Division 2 game at Wilkes Park.

Rugby and hockey were also badly hit and one of the few rugby matches to escape was Marlow's match against Bracknell — a hastily arranged fixture and Marlow's original opponents Maidenhead were involved in the John Player Cup. Bracknell proved worthy opposition and went down only 14-9 in a close match.

One man who had no problems with the weather was the Beaconsfield and Bucks squash player Jonny Leslie who reached the final of the British Amateur Squash final with a thrilling five game victory over the unseeded Swede Lars Kvant. Leslie, who won 9-0, 2-9, 8-10, 9-7, 9-6, now meets New Zealander Bruce Brownlee in tonight's (Monday) final at Wembley